Nature of QCD phase transition at finite temperature and density

Endpoint of first order transition by a histogram method

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Heavy quark region: WHOT-QCD(H. Saito, S. Ejiri, S. Aoki, K. Kanaya, Y. Nakagawa, H. Ohno, K. Okuno, and T. Umeda), arXiv:1309.2445 [hep-lat] Many-flavor QCD: S. Ejiri and N. Yamada, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 172001 (2013) [arXiv:1212.5899] Histogram method mini-review: S. Ejiri, Euro. Phys. J. A 49, 86 (2013) [arXiv:1306.0295]

NFQCD 2013, YITP, Kyoto, Japan, Nov. 27, 2013

### Phase structure of QCD at high temperature and density

- Phase transition lines
- Critical point
- Lattice QCD Simulations
- Direct simulation: Impossible at µ≠0.
- Reweighting method



### Quark Mass dependence of QCD phase trantion



- The determination of the boundary of 1<sup>st</sup> order region: important.
- On the line of physical mass, the crossover at low density 

   → 1<sup>st</sup> order transition at high density.
- However, the 1<sup>st</sup> order region is very small, and simulations with very small quark mass are required. 
   Difficult to study.

Heavy quark region, many-flavor QCD

## Critical surface at finite density simple examples

### Heavy quark region

All quarks are heavy.

(2+N<sub>f</sub>)-flavor QCD (N<sub>f</sub>: many)

Two light quarks and many massive quarks



# Histogram method

• Monte-Carlo method

(Sg: gauge action, M: qaurk matrix)

• Generate configurations with the probability of the Boltzmann weight.

$$\langle O \rangle_{(m,T,\mu)} = \frac{1}{Z} \int DU O \left( \det M(m,\mu) \right)^{N_{\rm f}} e^{-S_g} \approx \frac{1}{N_{\rm conf.}} \sum_{\{\text{conf.}\}} O$$

• Distribution function in Density of state method (Histogram method) *X*: <u>order parameters</u>, <u>total quark number</u>, <u>average plaquette</u> etc.

$$W(X;m,T,\mu) \equiv \int DU \,\delta(X-\hat{X}) (\det M(m,\mu))^{N_{\rm f}} e^{-S_g}$$
$$\frac{W(X)}{Z} \approx \frac{1}{N_{\rm conf.}} \sum_{\{\text{conf.}\}} \delta(X-\hat{X}) \qquad \delta(\hat{X}) \approx \int_{\hat{X}}^{\text{Gauss}} \text{or} \int_{\hat{X}}^{\hat{X}} \int_$$

• Expectation values

$$\left\langle O[X]\right\rangle_{(m,T,\mu)} = \frac{1}{Z} \int dX \ O[X] W(X,m,T,\mu), \quad Z(m,T,\mu) = \int dX \ W(X,m,T,\mu)$$

### Effective potential $V_{\text{eff}}(X)$ **Probability distribution function (histogram)**

W(X)

 ${ar X}_{
m cold}$ 

- First order phase transition Two phases coexists at T<sub>c</sub>
- If W(X) have two peaks,

first order transition

- Effective potential:  $V_{\text{eff}}(X) \equiv -\ln(W(X))$
- If W(X) is a Gaussian distribution,
  - The peak position of  $W(X) \longrightarrow (\langle X \rangle)$
  - The width of  $W(X) \implies$  susceptibilities

 $A \propto V/\gamma$ 



histogram

#### Reweighting method for plaquette distribution function

$$W(P,\beta,m,\mu) \equiv \int DU\delta(\hat{P}-P) \prod_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \det M(m_f,\mu_f) e^{6N_{\rm site}\beta\hat{P}} \qquad S_g = -6N_{\rm site}\beta\hat{P} \qquad (\beta = 6/g^2)$$

plaquette P (1x1 Wilson loop for the standard action)

 $R(P,\beta,\beta_0m,m_0,\mu) \equiv W(P,\beta,m,\mu)/W(P,\beta_0,m_0,0) \qquad \text{(Reweight factor)}$ 

$$R(P) = \frac{\left\langle \delta(\hat{P} - P) e^{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta - \beta_0)\hat{P}} \prod_{f} \frac{\det M(m_f, \mu_f)}{\det M(m_0, 0)} \right\rangle_{(\beta_0, \mu = 0)}}{\left\langle \delta(\hat{P} - P) \right\rangle_{(\beta_0, \mu = 0)}} \equiv \left\langle e^{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta - \beta_0)\hat{P}} \prod_{f} \frac{\det M(m_f, \mu_f)}{\det M(m_0, 0)} \right\rangle_{P:\text{fixed}}$$

Effective potential:

$$V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,m,\mu) = -\ln[W(P,\beta,m,\mu)] = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta_0,m_0,0) - \ln R(P,\beta,\beta_0m,m_0,\mu)$$
$$\ln R(P) = \frac{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta-\beta_0)P}{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta-\beta_0)P} + \ln\left\langle \prod_{f} \frac{\det M(m_f,\mu_f)}{\det M(m_0,0)} \right\rangle_{P:\text{fixed}}$$

# Sign problem

$$\left\langle \left( \frac{\det M(m,\mu)}{\det M(m_0,0)} \right)^{N_{\rm f}} \right\rangle_{X \text{ fixed}} = \left\langle e^{i\theta} \left| \frac{\det M(m,\mu)}{\det M(m_0,0)} \right|^{N_{\rm f}} \right\rangle_{X \text{ fixed}}$$

 $\theta$ : complex phase of  $(\det M)^{N_{\rm f}}$ 

• Sign problem: if  $e^{i\theta}$  changes the sign frequently,

$$W(X) \sim \left\langle e^{i\theta} \left| \frac{\det M(m,\mu)}{\det M(m_0,0)} \right|^{N_{\rm f}} \right\rangle_{X \text{ fixed}} << \text{(statistical error)}$$

$$\langle OR \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int ORW(X) dX = \frac{1}{Z} \int \exp(-V_{\text{eff}}(X) + \ln(OR)) dX$$

$$V_{\text{eff}}(X) = -\ln W(X)$$

- *W* is computed from the histogram.
- Distribution function around X where  $V_{\text{eff}}(X) - \ln(OR)$  is minimized: important.



• *V*<sub>eff</sub> must be computed in a wide range.



### Distribution function in quenched simulations



First order phase transition

dVeff/dP = 0 at the peak position of Veff (P). In this case, the curvature of Veff is independent of  $\beta$ .  $N_{site} = 24^3 \times 4$ 

### Distribution function in a quenched simulation Derivative of the plaquette effective potential



# Distribution function & the effective potential $W(X;m,T,\mu) \equiv \int DU\delta(X - \hat{X}) (\det M(m,\mu))^{N_{\rm f}} e^{-S_g} \quad \text{(Histogram)}$

X: order parameters, total quark number, average plaquette, etc.



#### Distribution function in the heavy quark region (WHOT-QCD Collab., Phys.Rev.D84, 054502(2011); arXiv:1309.2445)



- We study the properties of *W*(*X*) in the heavy quark region.
- Performing quenched simulations + Reweighting.
- We find the critical surface.
- Standard Wilson quark action + plaquette gauge action,  $S_g = -6N_{site}\beta P$
- $24^3x4$  lattice

Hopping parameter expansion  $\kappa \sim 1/(\text{quark mass})$  $N_{\rm f} \ln \left( \frac{\det M(\kappa,\mu)}{\det M(0,0)} \right) = N_{\rm f} \left( 288N_{\rm site} \kappa^4 P + 12 \cdot 2^{N_t} N_s^3 \kappa^{N_t} \left( \cosh(\mu/T) \Omega_R + i \sinh(\mu/T) \Omega_I \right) + \cdots \right)$ phase

*P*: plaquette,  $\Omega = \Omega R + i \Omega I$ : Polyakov loop

 $\det M(0,0) = 1$ 

## Order of the phase transition Polyakov loop distribution (2-flavor)



The pseudo-critical line is determined by χ<sub>Ω</sub> peak.



- Double-well at small  $\kappa$ 
  - First order transition
- Single-well at large κ
  - Crossover

 $\kappa \sim 1/(quark mass)$ 

#### Polyakov loop distribution in the complex plane $(2-flavor, \mu=0)$







 $\kappa^4 = 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ 





 $\kappa^4 = 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$ 



0.000025

critical point

- on  $\beta_{pc}$  measured by the Polyakov loop susceptibility.

## Critical surface in the heavy quark region of (2+1)-flavor QCD



## Control Parameters in W(X)

• Distribution function

$$W(X;\kappa,\beta,\mu) \equiv \int DU\delta(X-\hat{X}) \prod_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \det M(\kappa_f,\mu_f) e^{-S_g}$$
$$S_g = -6N_{\rm site}\beta \hat{P}$$

Hopping parameter expansion

 $\ln\left(\frac{\det M(\kappa,\mu)}{\det M(0,0)}\right) = 288N_{\text{site}}\kappa^{4}\hat{P} + 12\cdot 2^{N_{t}}N_{s}^{3}\kappa^{N_{t}}\left(\cosh(\mu/T)\hat{\Omega}_{R} + i\sinh(\mu/T)\hat{\Omega}_{I}\right) + \cdots$ 

- Three quantities in W: P,  $\Omega_R$ ,  $\Omega_I$
- Three parameters

$$\beta^* \equiv \beta + \sum_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} 48\kappa_f^4, \qquad \sum_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \kappa_f^{N_t} \cosh\left(\mu_f / T\right),$$

 $\left(0 \le \left| \tanh\left(\mu_f / T\right) \right| < 1\right)$ 

$$\sum_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \kappa_f^{N_t} \sinh\left(\mu_f / T\right)$$
$$= \sum_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \kappa_f^{N_t} \cosh\left(\mu_f / T\right) \tanh\left(\mu_f / T\right)$$

# Distribution function of $\Omega_{R}$ at finite density $W(\Omega_R,\beta,\kappa,\mu) = \int DU \,\delta(\Omega_R - \hat{\Omega}_R) (\det M(\kappa))^{N_{\rm f}} e^{-6N_{\rm site}\hat{P}}$

• Hopping parameter expansion

 $\frac{W(\beta,\kappa,\mu)}{W(\beta_{c},0,0)} = \left\langle \exp\left[\left(6(\beta-\beta_{0})+288N_{f}\kappa^{4}\right)N_{site}\hat{P}-12\times2^{N_{t}}N_{f}N_{s}^{3}\kappa^{N_{t}}\cosh(\mu/T)\hat{\Omega}_{R}+i\theta\right]\right\rangle_{\Omega_{R};\beta_{0},\kappa=\mu=0}$  $\left(\theta = 12 \cdot 2^{N_t} N_s^3 N_f \kappa^{N_t} \sinh(\mu/T) \hat{\Omega}_I\right)$ 

- Adopting  $\beta_0 \equiv \beta + 48N_{\rm f}\kappa^4$ ,
- Effective potential:  $V_{\text{eff}}(\Omega_{R};\beta,\kappa,\mu) = -\ln W(\Omega_{R};\beta,\kappa,\mu)$

$$V_{\rm eff}(\beta,\kappa,\mu) = V_{\rm eff}(\beta_0,0,0) - 12 \times 2^{N_t} N_f N_s^3 \underline{\kappa^{N_t} \cosh(\mu/T)} \Omega_R - \ln\langle e^{i\theta} \rangle_{\Omega_R;\beta_0,\kappa=\mu=0}$$

Phase-quenched part Phase average

 $\equiv V_0(\beta,\kappa,\mu) \qquad -\ln\langle e^{\prime \circ} \rangle_{\Omega_R;\beta_0,\kappa=\mu=0}$ 

*V*<sub>0</sub> is *V*<sub>eff</sub> (µ=0) when we replace  $\underline{\kappa}^{N_t} \Rightarrow \kappa^{N_t} \cosh(\mu/T)$ (at  $\mu = 0$ ,  $V_{\text{eff}}(\beta, \kappa, 0) = V_{\text{eff}}(\beta_0, 0, 0) - 12 \times 2^{N_t} N_f N_s^3 \kappa^{N_t} \Omega_R$ )

#### Avoiding the sign problem (SE, Phys.Rev.D77,014508(2008), WHOT-QCD, Phys.Rev.D82, 014508(2010))

- $\theta = \text{Im} \ln \det M \approx 12 \cdot 2^{N_t} N_s^3 N_f \kappa^{N_t} \sinh(\mu/T) \Omega_I$
- Sign problem: If  $e^{i\theta}$  changes its sign,

$$\left\langle e^{i\theta} \right\rangle_{\Omega_R \text{ fixed}} << \text{(statistical error)}$$

• Cumulant expansion

$$\left\langle e^{i\theta} \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}} = \exp\left[i\left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{C} - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle \theta^{2} \right\rangle_{C} - \frac{i}{3!}\left\langle \theta^{3} \right\rangle_{C} + \frac{1}{4!}\left\langle \theta^{4} \right\rangle_{C} + \cdots\right]$$

cumulants

$$\left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{C} = \left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}}, \quad \left\langle \theta^{2} \right\rangle_{C} = \left\langle \theta^{2} \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}} - \left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}}^{2}, \quad \left\langle \theta^{3} \right\rangle_{C} = \left\langle \theta^{3} \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}} - 3\left\langle \theta^{2} \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}} \left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}} + 2\left\langle \theta \right\rangle_{\Omega_{R}}^{3}, \quad \left\langle \theta^{4} \right\rangle_{C} = \cdots$$

- <u>Odd terms</u> vanish from a symmetry under  $\mu \leftrightarrow -\mu (\theta \leftrightarrow -\theta)$ Source of the complex phase
- If the cumulant expansion converges, No sign problem.



• At the critical point of phase-quenched part, the effect of higher order terms: small.  $\kappa_{cp}^{N_t}(0) = \kappa_{cp}^{N_t}(\mu) \cosh(\mu/T) > \kappa_{cp}^{N_t}(\mu) \sinh(\mu/T)$ ~0.00002 Effect from the complex phase factor (2-flavor)

• Polyakov loop effective potential at various  $\kappa^{N_t} \cosh(\mu/T)$ at the transition point. ( $\beta^*$  is adjusted at the transition point.)

- Solid lines:  $\mu=0$ , i.e.,  $\cosh(\mu/T)=1$ ,  $\tanh(\mu/T)=0$ 





The effect from the complex phase factor is very small except near  $\Omega_R=0$ .



The nature of the phase transition is controlled only by

$$\sum_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \kappa_f^{N_t} \cosh\left(\mu_f / T\right)$$

## Critical surface in the heavy quark region of (2+1)-flavor QCD $(24^3 \times 4 \text{ lattice})$



# Phase transitions in many-flavor QCD

Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 172001 (2013)

- Technicolor model
- First order transition

➡ Electro-weak baryogenesis

• Good test for (2+1)-flavor QCD

Finite T and µ phase transition in (2+many)-flavor QCD (Cf. Kikukawa, Kohda and Yasuda, Phys. Rev. D77, 015014(2008))

- Technicolor model constructed by many-flavor QCD
- Chiral phase transition of QCD

→ Electroweak phase transition at finite temperature

- Nambu-Goldstone bosons
  - 3 bosons are absorbed into the gauge bosons. (3 massless bosons)
  - The other bosons have not observed yet. (The other bosons: heavy)
  - 2 techni-felmions are massless, and the others are heavy.
- Electro-weak baryogenesis
  - Strong first order transition: required.
  - From the analogy of 2+1-flavor QCD, 1st order at small mass;
     2nd order or crossover at large mass.
- It is important to determine the endpoint of the first order region in (2+many)-flavor QCD.

## Nature of phase transition of 2+N<sub>f</sub>-flavor QCD

m₅



- Assumption:  $N_{\rm f}$ -flavors are heavy.
  - Hopping parameter к expansion

• Parameter: 
$$N_{\rm f} \kappa^{N_t} \implies 1/m_{h,ct} \sim \kappa_{ct} \propto 1/N_{\rm f}^{1/N_t}$$

As increasing 
$$N_{\rm f}$$
, critical mass becomes larger.

Tricritical scaling: the same as (2+1)-flavorQCD

Tricritical point
$$m_{ud}^c \sim (m_E - m_h)^{5/2}$$
 $m_E$ : $m_{ud}^c \sim \mu^5$ 

Good test ground

#### Reweighting method for plaquette distribution function

$$W(P,\beta,m,\mu) \equiv \int DU\delta(\hat{P}-P) \prod_{f=1}^{N_{\rm f}} \det M(m_f,\mu_f) e^{6N_{\rm site}\beta\hat{P}} \qquad S_g = -6N_{\rm site}\beta\hat{P} \qquad (\beta = 6/g^2)$$

plaquette P (1x1 Wilson loop for the standard action)

^

 $R(P,\beta,\beta_0m,m_0,\mu) \equiv W(P,\beta,m,\mu)/W(P,\beta_0,m_0,0) \qquad \text{(Reweight factor)}$ 

$$R(P) = \frac{\left\langle \delta(\hat{P} - P) e^{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta - \beta_0)\hat{P}} \prod_{f} \frac{\det M(m_f, \mu_f)}{\det M(m_0, 0)} \right\rangle_{(\beta_0, \mu = 0)}}{\left\langle \delta(\hat{P} - P) \right\rangle_{(\beta_0, \mu = 0)}} = \left\langle e^{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta - \beta_0)\hat{P}} \prod_{f} \frac{\det M(m_f, \mu_f)}{\det M(m_0, 0)} \right\rangle_{P:\text{fixed}}$$

Effective potential:

$$V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,m,\mu) = -\ln[W(P,\beta,m,\mu)] = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta_0,m_0,0) - \ln R(P,\beta,\beta_0m,m_0,\mu)$$
$$\ln R(P) = \frac{6N_{\text{site}}(\beta-\beta_0)P}{6} + \ln\left\langle \prod_f \frac{\det M(m_f,\mu_f)}{\det M(m_0,0)} \right\rangle_{P:\text{fixed}}$$

### First order transition point: two phases coexist Plaquette distribution function

- Performing simulations of 2-flavor QCD,
- Dynamical effect of N<sub>f</sub>-flavors are included by the reweighting.
- We assume *N*<sub>f</sub>-flavors are heavy.
- Hopping parameter ( $\kappa$ ) expansion (Wilson quark)

 $N_{\rm f} \ln \left( \frac{\det M(\kappa,\mu)}{\det M(0,0)} \right) = N_{\rm f} \left( 288N_{\rm site} \kappa^4 P + 12 \cdot 2^{N_t} N_s^3 \kappa^{N_t} \left( \cosh(\mu/T) \Omega_R + i \sinh(\mu/T) \Omega_I \right) + \cdots \right)$ 

• Effective potential  $2-\text{flavor} \qquad 2+\text{Nf-flavor} \qquad 1 \text{ st order transition} \\ V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,\kappa) = -\ln[R(P,\kappa)W(P,\beta,0)] = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) + V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) + V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) + V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) + V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,0) + V$ 

# Curvature of the effective potential $V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta,h,\mu) = V_{\text{eff}}(P,\beta_0,0,0) - \ln \overline{R}(P,h,\mu) + \text{ (linear term of }P)$ $\overline{R}(P) = \left\langle \exp(6N_s^3h\Omega_R) \right\rangle_{P:\text{fixed}} \text{ (for the case of }\mu=0)$

Wilson quark

$$h = 2N_{\rm f} \left( 2\kappa_{\rm h} \right)^{N}$$

Staggered quark

$$h = N_{\rm f} / \left( 4 \left( 2m_{\rm h} \right)^{N_t} \right)$$

- Linear term of *P* is irrelevant to the curvature
- $\beta$ -dependence is only in the linear term.
- The curvature is independent of  $\beta$ .

$$\chi_P$$
: plaquette susceptibility  
 $\frac{d^2 V_{\text{eff}}(0)}{dP^2} \approx \frac{6N_{\text{site}}}{\chi_P}$ 

$$\frac{d^2 V_{\text{eff}}}{dP^2} (P, h, \mu) = \frac{d^2 V_{\text{eff}}}{dP^2} (P, 0, 0) - \frac{d^2 \ln \overline{R}}{dP^2} (P, h, \mu)$$
  
2-flavor

• If there exists the negative curvature region,

First order transition (double-well potential)

## **Effective potential at** $h \neq 0$ $V_{eff}(P,\beta,h) = V_{eff}(P,\beta,0) - \ln R(P,h)$

Nf=2 p4-staggared, mπ/mρ≈0.7 [data: Beilefeld-Swansea Collab.,PRD71,054508(2005)]

- det*M*: hopping parameter expansion.
- InR increases as increasing *h*.
- The curvature increases with *h*.



### Curvature of the effective potential



# $N_{\rm f}$ -dependence of the critical mass $h_c = 0.0614(69)$

• Critical mass increases as  $N_{\rm f}$  increases.

$$h = 2N_{\rm f} \left(2\kappa_{\rm h}\right)^{N_t} \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \kappa_{\rm h}^c = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{h_c}{2N_{\rm f}}\right)^{1/N_t}$$

- When  $N_{\rm f}$  is large,  $\kappa$  is small. Then, the hopping parameter ( $\kappa$ ) expansion is good.
- On the hand, when  $N_{\rm f}$  is small, the  $\kappa$ -expansion is bad.
- In a quenched simulation with  $N_t$ =4, the first and second terms becomes comparable around  $\kappa$ =0.18.
- For  $N_{\rm f}$ =10,  $N_{\rm t}$ =4,  $h_c = 0.0614(69)$   $\implies \kappa_h^c \approx 0.118$

– It may be applicable for  $N_{\rm f}$ ~10.

### Curvature of the effective potential at finite $\boldsymbol{\mu}$





*N*f=2 p4-staggared,  $m_{\pi}/m_{\rho} \approx 0.7$  [data in PRD71,054508(2005)]

• The curvatures of  $lnR(P;\mu,0)$  and lnR(P;0,h) are large at the same P.

The curvature of  $lnR(P;\mu,h)$  is enhanced.

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# Critical line at finite density

$$h = 2N_{\rm f} \left(2\kappa_{\rm h}\right)^{N}$$

for Wilson quarks

$$h = N_{\rm f} \left/ \left( 4 \left( 2 m_{\rm h} \right)^{N_t} \right) \right.$$

for staggered quarks

- Calculations of detM: Taylor expansion up to O(μ<sup>6</sup>)
- Distribution function of the complex phase of detM: approximated by a Gaussian function





Phase structure of (2+many)-flavor
QCD using Wilson quark action
2-flavor QCD simulations + reweighting
Light quark mass dependence of the critical line

- Trictitical scaling behavior?
- Is there a first order transition region in 2-flavor QCD?



## Light quark mass dependence (preliminary)



1.75

1.65

1.7

## Summary

• We discussed the QCD phase transition in the heavy quark region.

WHOT-QCD(H. Saito, S. Ejiri, S. Aoki, K. Kanaya, Y. Nakagawa, H. Ohno, K. Okuno, and T. Umeda), arXiv:1309.2445 S. Ejiri, Euro. Phys. J. A 49, 86 (2013) [arXiv:1306.0295]

- The critical surface in the heavy quark region of (2+1)-flavor QCD is computed.

• We investigated the phase structure of (2+Nf)-flavor QCD.

S. Ejiri & N. Yamada, Phys. Rev. Lett. 110, 172001 (2013) [arXiv:1212.5899]

- This model is interesting for the feasibility study of the electroweak baryogenesis in the technicolor scenario.
- An appearance of a first order phase transition at finite temperature is required for the baryogenesis.
- Applying the reweighting method, we determine the critical mass of heavy flavors terminating the first order region.
  - The critical mass becomes larger with N<sub>f</sub>.
  - The first order region becomes wider as increasing μ.
- This may be a good test for the determination of boundary of the first order region in (2+1)-flavor QCD at finite density.